

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form



PG # 68-4-23

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Dorsey's Plumbing

2. Location

street & number 4505 Queensbury Road not for publication

city, town Riverdale vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name John C. Dorsey, Inc.

street & number 4505 Queensbury Road telephone no.: 927-7100

city, town Riverdale state and zip code Maryland 20737

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 6253

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 802

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Unknown

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. 85-62-4-23

Condition

☐ excellent

☐ good

☒ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This is a two-story brick storefront with apartments on the second level. The building faces Queensbury looking north and is located at the juncture of the commercial and residential areas of Riverdale. The building is small in scale and is compatible with the neighborhood around it.

The brick structure is now occupied by "Just Stuff" a miniature dollhouse shop and the Dorsey Plumbing Company present owners of the building. There are few original materials left in the building which are visible. The walls and ceiling are plaster with a variety of artifical materials for floor and wall covering.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG #68-4-23

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates ca 1949 Builder/Architect Central Construction Co.

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This structure was probably built shortly after the purchase of the land by the Central Construction Company of Washington, D.C. The company was founded by three brothers named Rosen for the purpose of buying undeveloped land for the purpose of subdividing and construction. The incorporation papers were signed in 1948.

When it was constructed, it was probably for the purpose of increasing housing space for an area which saw increases in population after World War II, and the need for more commercial space near Route 1, especially with the viability of that route with the increase in automobile traffic.

Despite the building's somewhat rundown condition, it still retains its original integrity without any major alterations to its exterior. What interior was seen was plain with no ornamentation. Any recent materials could be removed without extreme difficulty. This building is representative of the Post-World War II development which took place in Riverdale.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. FG-65-4-23

WWW 14 383

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Washington East

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 39 Lot 5 Riverdale Park Subdivision

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Nancy Hoffman		
organization	George Washington University	date	March 1990
street & number	Dept of American Studies	telephone	994-6070
city or town	Washington, D.C.	state	

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
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